



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department for the Aging

Jay W. DeBoer, J.D., Commissioner

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COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department for the Aging
Jay W. DeBoer, J.D., Commissioner

MEMORANDUM

TO: Executive Directors
Area Agencies on Aging

FROM: Tim M. Catherman
Deputy Commissioner, Support Services

DATE: June 28, 2005

SUBJECT: Virginia Aging and AoA in the News

Below are Virginia Aging or AoA related articles that have occurred since last week's Tuesday E-mailing. These links do not require a paid service; however, some (like the Washington Post, etc.) ask a brief survey or registration. Please note some links are time sensitive and can change daily. Some articles may be editorial and/or political. Links are presented 'as is'.

If you are aware of additional articles, please e-mail me a link for inclusion next week.

Virginia AAAs In the News[The Winchester Star](#)

Winchester Star - Winchester, VA

BERRYVILLE -- The head of the Shenandoah Area Agency on Aging is hoping citizens will get on board to persuade Virginia's legislators to increase funding ...

[International citizens discuss rural life](#)

Coalfield Progress - Norton, VA

... visitors traveled by bus to visit University of Virginia's College at Wise, the John Fox Jr. House in Big Stone Gap, Mountain Empire Older Citizens, the Powell ...

[Aging population problem addressed by community](#)

Charlottesville Daily Progress - Charlottesville, VA

... The eventual goal, explained Gordon Walker, director of the Jefferson Area Board for Aging, is to determine "what role the federal government will play in ...

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Executive Directors
Area Agencies on Aging

FROM: Ellen Nau, Human Services Program Coordinator

DATE: June 28, 2005

SUBJECT: National Family Caregiver Support Program – Kinship Care Best Practices

The Brookdale Foundation Relatives as Parents Program (RAPP) National Orientation and Training Conference for State and Local Grantees was held in Denver Colorado on June 10-12. Attendees from Virginia included Ellen Nau, Brookdale State Representative, Carol Moore and Janie Dockery of Mountain Empire Older Citizens Area Agency on Aging; Kathy Dial of Catholic Charities of Eastern Virginia; Cindy Reeves of Strong Families Great Youth Coalition of the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Community and Cathy Thompson of Family Service of the Roanoke Valley.

Many states are recipients of the Brookdale Foundation RAPP grant and utilize available grandparent raising grandchildren funds from the National Family Caregiver Support Program. In this Tuesday Mailing and successive mailings, I will give you a summation of various state best practices in the area of kinship care.

Arizona:

Several of Arizona's eight Area Agencies on Aging use NFCSP funds for services for grandparents (over 60) raising grandchildren (under 19).

- Region One – Maricopa County – continues to expand support groups, therapeutic play activities for children at senior centers and parenting skills for grandparents.
- Northern Arizona Council of Governments – provides coordination and resource materials for a new Kinship Support Center in Flagstaff and is a key player in a local coalition of agencies arranging an annual Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Conference

National Family Caregiver Support Program – Kinship Care Best Practices

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- Western Arizona Council of Governments – maintains grandparent information in each of its Caregiver Resource Zones
- Pina-Gila Council for Senior Citizens – develops training packets for individuals and support group sessions for kinship caregivers. The Council recently completed a project to provide school supplies and clothing to rural poor families with children living with a relative caregiver
- Southeastern Arizona Government Organization – started new grandparent support group and offers scholarships for respite training in either Tucson or Phoenix

Delaware:

- Grand Time Off Program – A National Family Caregiver Support Program – offers caregivers up to \$400 of childcare service at the provider of the caregiver's choice. State funds have been added to make the program available to relative caregivers age 50-59
- Camp Respite Program – A National Family Caregiver Support Program – Summer camp respite for caregivers over the age of 60

Minnesota:

In 2002 the Minnesota Board on Aging in Cooperation with the Area Agencies on Aging granted the Minnesota Kinship Caregivers Association the full 10% of the state NFCSP funding allowable to develop and implement a statewide service delivery model to kinship caregivers. The Grand Kin project serves all 87 counties and Indian Tribes in Minnesota with the goals of

1. Providing high quality services through an effective statewide service delivery model
2. To create a strong voice in the public arena
3. To ensure an effective organization through increased governance capacity and sufficient human and financial resource to achieve planned goals

Rhode Island:

A State Intersystems Task Force provides supplemental funding to the state's RAPP initiative through the National Family Caregiver Support Program and Rhode Island's State Department of Human Services' Family Independence Program to provide a KIDKAMP. KIDKAMP offers children in elder kincare families scholarships to attend recreational activities during the summer and school vacations to provide respite to their caregivers.

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Department for the Aging

Jay W. DeBoer, J.D., Commissioner

MEMORANDUM

TO: Executive Directors
Area Agencies on Aging

FROM: Marsha Mucha

DATE: June 28, 2005

SUBJECT: Commonwealth Council on Aging Meeting Minutes

Attached for your information are the minutes from the January 26, 2005 Commonwealth Council on Aging meeting.

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please let me know.

Commonwealth Council on Aging

Meeting Minutes

January 26, 2005

Virginia Department for the Aging Conference Room

Members Present: John W. Burton Theresa Ransone
Mary Lee Cantor Judi Reid
David Cash Elvira Shaw
Dr. Barbara Chrisley Erica Wood
Helen Cockrell
Judith Koziol
Dr. Dick Lindsay
Gwen Mullen

Ex-Officio Present: Terry Smith, *Department of Social Services*

Members Absent: Betty Bowden
Norah Knutsen
Xavier Richardson
Shirley Rogers
Lilyan Spero
Ella Brown Wright

Ex-Officio Absent: Diana Thorpe, *Department of Medical Assistance Services*

Guests: See attached list.

Staff: Jay W. DeBoer, J.D., *Commissioner*
Tim Catherman, *Deputy Commissioner, Support Services*
Bill Peterson, *Deputy Commissioner, Programs*
Janet Dingle Brown, *Guardianship Coordinator & Legal Services Developer*
Robin Brannon, *Communications Director*
Jack Kotvas, *Assistant Attorney General*
Barbara Childers Sheehan, *Student Intern*
Marsha Mucha, *Administrative Staff Assistant*

Meeting Called to Order

Mrs. Judi Reid, Chairman of the Commonwealth Council on Aging, called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. She welcomed everyone and asked members and guests to introduce themselves. Dr. Peterson introduced Janet Dingle Brown, the new Virginia Department for the Aging (VDA) Guardianship Coordinator and Legal Services Developer.

The minutes of the December 2, 2004 meeting were reviewed and approved as submitted. Mrs. Reid announced that Mrs. Barbara Taylor had resigned from the Council and she appointed Mrs. Cantor to serve as temporary secretary, replacing Mrs. Taylor in that position.

Commissioner's Report

Commissioner DeBoer reported that he was pleased to see large attendance at the Virginia Center on Aging's Legislative Breakfast held earlier. He commended the Council and the Virginia Association of Area Agencies on Aging (V4A) for their role in raising the awareness of members of the legislature about issues of concern to older Virginians, their families and the area agencies on aging (AAAs).

Commissioner DeBoer reported that budget amendments requested by members of the House of Delegates had just been released and he distributed copies of the amendments. He noted the following:

- Mr. Reid has sponsored the Council's legislative proposals for additional transportation and long-term care ombudsman funding.
- Several of the budget amendments introduced provide additional funding for services such as care coordination (case management), adult day and respite services, home-delivered meals, and other in-home services to be provided by the AAAs.
- A budget amendment has been added to further expand the Virginia Public Guardian and Conservator Program to add 3 programs specifically targeted to serve individuals 18 years of age and older who have been assessed as needing guardianship due to mental illness or mental retardation. This is a recommendation of the Joint Commission on Health Care.

Commissioner DeBoer also reported that Governor Warner has offered a \$50,000 budget amendment to provide additional funding to support Alzheimer's Disease research through the Alzheimer's and Related Disorders Research Award Fund, which is administered by Virginia Commonwealth University's Center on Aging. Commissioner DeBoer noted that, in the last several years, this program has seen a major reduction in funding.

Commissioner DeBoer briefly commented on assisted living legislation and noted that Secretary Woods would comment on this subject further during her presentation. He explained that a number of assisted living bills have been introduced, but he expected one bill to emerge in the House, sponsored by Mr. Hamilton, and one bill to emerge in the Senate, sponsored by Senator Hanger.

A brief question and answer period followed Commissioner DeBoer's remarks.

Legislative Committee Report

Mrs. Erica Wood, Chairman of the Legislative Committee, thanked Council members for their hard work on behalf of the Council's legislative platform. She reported on the following legislative activities:

- Council members attended budget hearings sponsored by the Senate Finance and House Appropriations Committees. They also distributed copies of the Council's legislative platform at the hearings.
- Council members have been visiting their legislators. Council members also visited legislative offices today along with local AAA directors after the Center on Aging's Legislative Breakfast.
- The Council's legislative platform recommended that accessible housing be included as an additional element in the comprehensive plan that each locality is required to

prepare. HB 2407 was heard in subcommittee earlier and was reported out on a unanimous vote. Mrs. Reid spoke in support of the bill, which is also supported by the Home Builders Association.

In closing her report, Mrs. Wood thanked Miss Brannon for her efforts on the presentation package of the Council's legislative platform. She also thanked Mr. Reid for his sponsorship of the budget amendments on ombudsman and transportation funding.

Mrs. Reid thanked Mrs. Wood for her hard work as chairman of the Legislative Committee.

Planning and Development Committee Report

Mrs. Helen Cockrell, Chairman of the Planning and Development Committee, reported that the Committee is beginning to gather background information on development of the Council's award program that was approved at the December 2, 2004 Council meeting. She reminded Council members that the annual award would recognize innovative programs and senior services in the Commonwealth. The first award would be presented in January 2006.

Other Business

In accordance with the Council's bylaws, Mrs. Reid appointed Mr. Burton and Mr. Cash to serve on the Nominating Committee. Mr. Burton will serve as chairman. Mrs. Mullen nominated Mrs. Rogers, Mrs. Wood and Mrs. Wright to serve as the Council's representatives on the Nominating Committee. These nominations received a unanimous vote of approval by the Council. A slate of officers will be presented and elections held at the May 19, 2005 Council meeting.

Dr. Peterson reported on the "Own Your Future" campaign. Dr. Peterson explained that Virginia is one of five states working with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) on a pilot program to promote long-term care awareness. The campaign targets individuals between the ages of 50 and 70, who will receive a letter from Governor Warner encouraging them to order the long-term care awareness and planning toolkit. Dr. Peterson noted that VDA will hire an employee with knowledge of this subject to take calls and provide training to the local Virginia Insurance Counseling and Assistance Program (VICAP) counselors. V4A will provide two specially trained counselors; one at the Jefferson Area Board for Aging in Charlottesville and one at Senior Services in Norfolk who will provide additional statewide assistance to callers.

Dr. Peterson noted that VDA staff is compiling a list of legislation of interest to older Virginians and their families. A copy will be distributed to Council members in the next few days.

Dr. Peterson noted that one bill introduced in this session of the General Assembly would combine the Virginia Department for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, the Virginia Department for the Blind and Visually Impaired, and the Department of Rehabilitative Services into one agency. He remarked that such legislation could have implications for VDA and the aging network, as Virginia is one of only a handful of states that has a freestanding agency on aging. In many states, aging is part of a larger health and human services agency or an aging and disability services agency.

Presentation by the Honorable Jane H. Woods

The Honorable Jane H. Woods, Secretary of Health and Human Resources, reported on assisted living facilities' legislation. She noted the following goals of the proposed assisted living legislation:

- Would require licensing of assisted living facility administrators. Administrators of facilities that are only residential would not be subject to the licensing requirements.
- Would require that each assisted living facility have a medication plan.
- Would provide for a registry of persons specifically trained in medication administration.
- Would provide additional inspectors in the Department of Social Services (DSS). New inspectors would receive training within 30 days of their employment.
- Would expand the powers of the Commissioner of DSS to issue orders of summary suspension of licenses and appointment of interim administrators in cases of immediate and substantial threat to the health, safety, and welfare of residents.
- Would raise the civil monetary penalty ceiling for violations.
- Would require assisted living facilities to notify the local community services board of residents (prior to their admission) that have serious mental illness, mental retardation or substance abuse problems.

A question and answer period followed Secretary Woods' presentation.

Meeting Dates

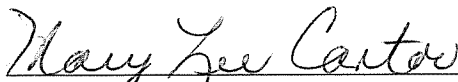
Mrs. Reid reminded Council members that the next meeting would be held Thursday, May 19, 2005. The Nominating Committee will present their slate of officers and new officers will be elected at that time.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

 6/23/05
Mary Lee Cantor, Temporary Secretary Date

Commonwealth Council on Aging
Wednesday, January 26, 2005

Name

Adrienne Martin

JENNIE BALDWIN

Thelma Bland Watson

CHET TAYLOR

Jim Brinkmeier

Roberta Laufer

Terri Lynne

Grace Starbird

Bill Massey

Affiliation

Senior Navigator.com

VAHA

Senior Connection ^{the Capital Area Agency on Aging}

SHENANDOAH AREA AGENCY ON THE AGEING

SAAA

SAAA

Arlington AAA

Fairfax Area Agency on Aging

Peninsula Agency on Aging
